

Solicitation RFQ-DC-07-00252
Peer Review of OSWER Case Studies

1. In the RFQ Cover Letter Task Table, the total estimated LOE is 430 hours. In the Statement of Work (SOW) Task 2 description, up to 40 hours are allowed for each of the 3 peer reviewers (equaling up to 120 hours for peer review). Is this 120 hours included in the estimate provided in Task 3 of the RFQ Cover Letter or should it be calculated in addition to the estimated 430 hours?

Answer: *It is included in the estimate provided in Task 3 of the RFQ cover letter.*

2. The SOW Background Information section states that purpose of the assessment case studies is to "better understand the changes in ecosystems and the services they provide after site cleanup work is complete." Yet in the Evaluation Factors Past Performance on Similar Work and Personnel Sections, there is no requirement for the offeror or other personnel to have experience or training in environmental science or ecology. These fields seem to be very germane to the subject area of your request. Are experience and training in these fields acceptable alternatives for the fields of economics, environmental economics, or agricultural economics?

Answer: *One of the main objectives of this study is to apply analytical valuation models to site-specific data to estimate the benefits of remediation. Peer reviewers will need to have expertise in benefits assessment methodologies and techniques in order to provide EPA with the strengths/weaknesses of the case studies and to identify data gaps. The case studies will utilize key concepts, and terms from the field of environmental economics and natural resources valuation techniques, therefore peer reviewers should have expertise in these fields.*